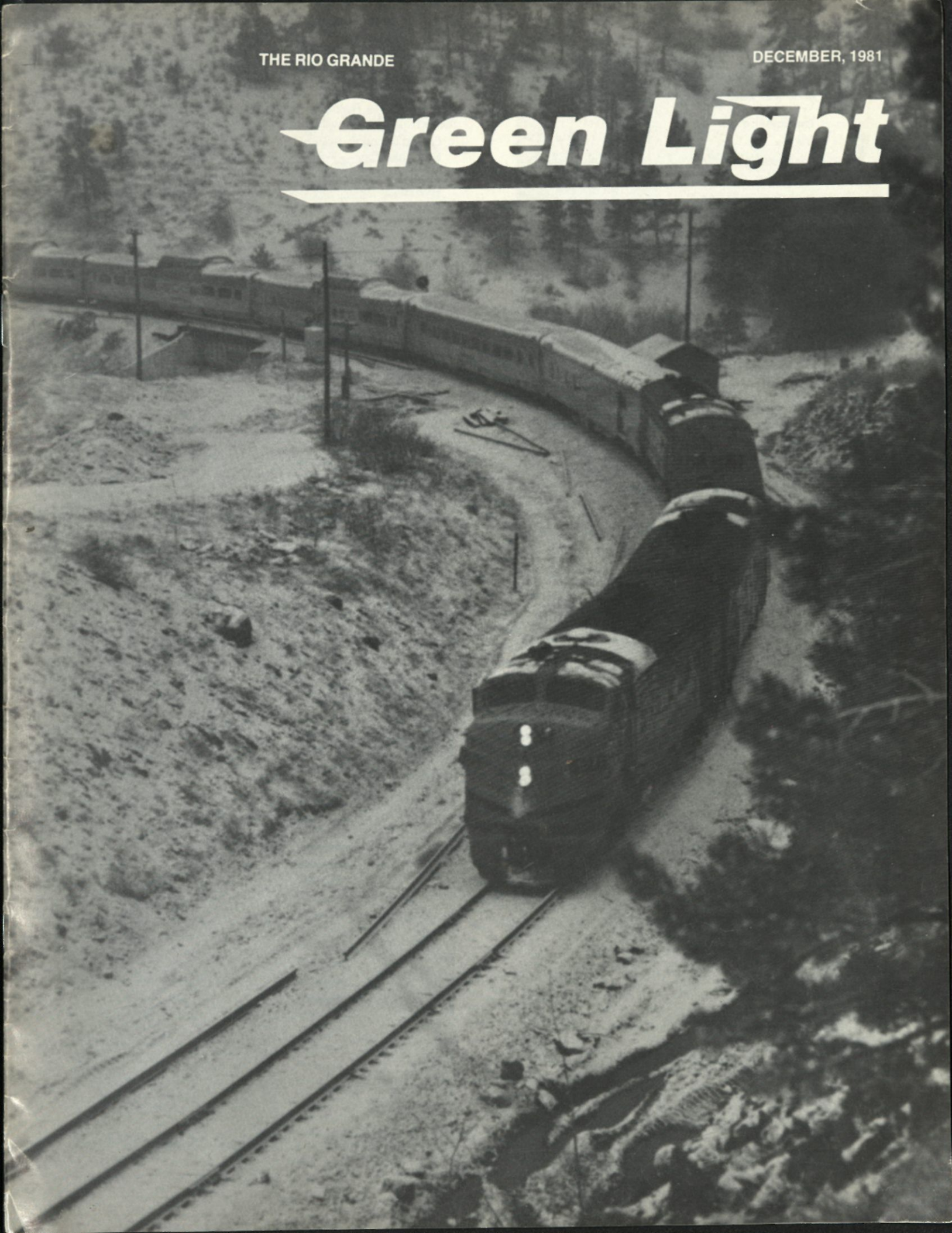
THE RIO GRANDE

DECEMBER, 1981

Green Light



Green Light

December, 1981

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Jeanne Gustafson, Editor

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On the cover

On a very cold day in December, 1979, Photographer George Lawrence took the cover photograph of the Rio Grande Zephyr wending its way through Coal Creek Canyon. New rail had just been installed on this curve at MP 22.97. Scrap rail removed from the low side of curve is waiting to be picked up by maintenance of way crews. The maintenance of track is a continuing program as high side of track is set to low side and new rail is set to the high side, assuring both safety and comfort to Rio Grande's freight and passenger trains.

1982 CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Annual Retirement Dinner Dates

Rio Grande Retirement Dinners honoring employees who retired during 1981 will be held throughout the system as follows:

Grand Junction — February 6, 1982 — Ramada Inn
Salt Lake City — February 27, 1982 — Salt Palace
Pueblo — March 6, 1982 — Ramada Inn
Denver — March 19, 1982 — Marriott Hotel-Southeast

All dinners will begin at 6:30 PM unless otherwise notified. Contact local Veterans Club officers for details. Mark your calendars and plan to attend.

Annual System Bowling Tournament

The Rio Grande Annual System Bowling Tournament will be held on March 13 and 14, 1982 at Freeway Lanes, Grand Junction, Colorado. The annual bowling banquet will be held on March 14. Secretary Tom Lynch of Grand Junction will furnish entry forms and more details in the near future. All you bowlers strengthen up your bowling arm and get ready for some strong competition and lots of fun.

Annual System Veterans Convention

September 17, 18, and 19 — Continental Hotel — Denver, Colorado.

Accounting Officers Appointed

Following the retirement of Comptroller Donald L. Clavel on November 1, 1981, changes in Accounting Department management were made. Former General Auditor Barry R. Seaton was appointed comptroller, and the former Assistant Treasurer Walter F. Downes, Jr. was appointed general auditor.

Barry Seaton has served with Rio Grande since 1956 when he started as clerk at Littleton, Colorado. He worked various positions in the Accounting Department until 1961 when he transferred to the Data Processing department in Denver as systems programmer. In April, 1969 he was appointed manager of Datanet Programs, MIS and in November of that year he was appointed assistant general auditor, Disbursements Accounting, Denver. On May 1, 1978 he was appointed general auditor and on November 1, 1981 was appointed comptroller.

Barry, a native of Denver, married Tove, a native of Copenhagen, after they met while attending Denver University. They have three children; Kenneth, a sophomore at Colorado University; Richard, a senior at George Washington High School; and Lisa, a sophomore at George Washington High School. Since all three are musically talented and socially active, Barry and Tove are very busy keeping up with their activities.

Barry also likes to golf and fish and enjoys doing the "necessary" things around his home. Being a true Denver native, he is an avid Bronco fan. So much so that Tove throws a small celebration when the football season ends!

Walter Downes was employed as assistant treasurer in the Denver treasurer's office on July 1, 1977. He was appointed general auditor on November 1, 1981.

Walter is a native upstate New Yorker and a graduate of the University of Texas in El Paso. He, too, is a Bronco fan and sports enthusiast. He likes to play softball and go backpacking in the summer. His two children, Wesley, 8, and Anna, 5, occupy most of his spare time, and he enjoys doing the things with them "that most fathers do."

Congratulations to Barry and Walter, two genial men who are true pillars of Rio Grande, the Action road.

Barry R. Seaton, comptroller

Walter Downes, general auditor

"Rails That Link the Future, Present, and Past"

"Railroads are ribbons of steel which tie the future to the present and the present to its past — roots rich in heritage. . ."

The above-titled article was submitted to Green Light by Conductor Paul Bonnifield, along with the photographs and captions printed on these pages. Although the article could not be printed in its entirety, we are grateful to Conductor Bonnifield for sharing his thoughts with us. Paul has been in service with Rio Grande as a trainman since 1978 and worked in the Communications Department as a groundman and lineman prior to that. The photographs were provided by Iris Photography of Craig, Colorado, and we appreciate their use for Green Light publication.

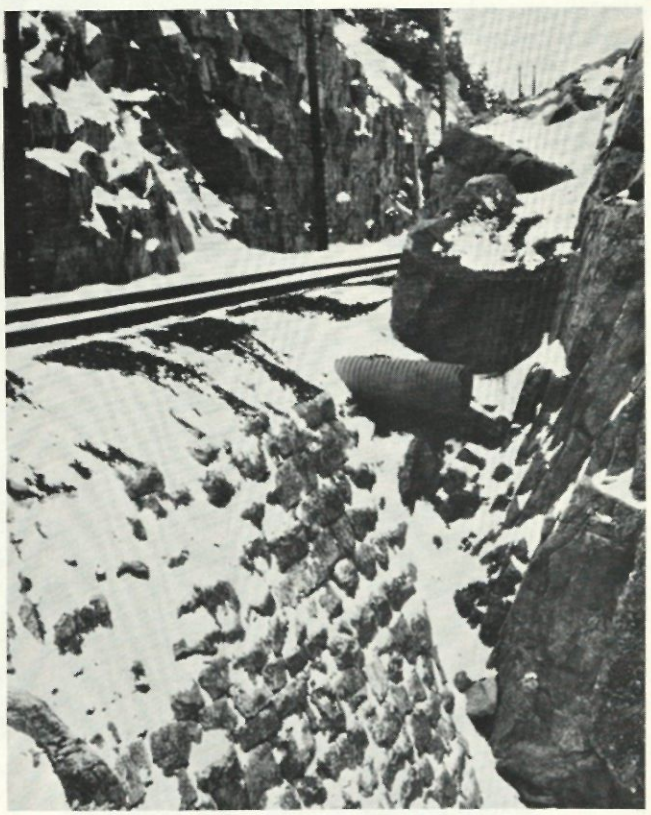
Conductor Bonnifield has other writings to his credit, including three books, and is currently working on the first draft of a book on the history of coal mining in northwestern Colorado.

"As they go about their daily tasks of meeting the demands of the world, railroaders and people everywhere occasionally get a feeling that they are on a small caboose, helplessly being dragged into an unrelenting mountain from which there is no escape."

"A railroad tunnel is a place of hope. It has an opening at both ends with vistas to broad horizons. Although folks on the caboose might feel small and uncertain of the darkness that lies ahead, those on the engine can feel confident and mighty as they emerge into the brightness. The engine and the caboose are tied together with the same destination, but each traveler has a different perspective of what lies ahead."

Photos courtesy of Iris Photography, Craig, Colorado

"Life is a series of choices made at each switch, and we determine our success by how far we have come as indicated by standard mile posts. The rails we travel, either in reality or philosophically, can take us to a higher or lower plane; it all depends upon how we line the switch."



"Deeply embedded in the 'root' of railroads is the heritage of people who would not be defeated. When the railroaders first came to this spot in Rock Creek Canyon, they encountered a mighty barrier. But with simple tools and an undaunted will, they carved a cut and fashioned a 'dry wall' bridge. The mighty barrier became a gentle grade wearing a crown of steel rails."

National Sales Manager Makes Last Pitch

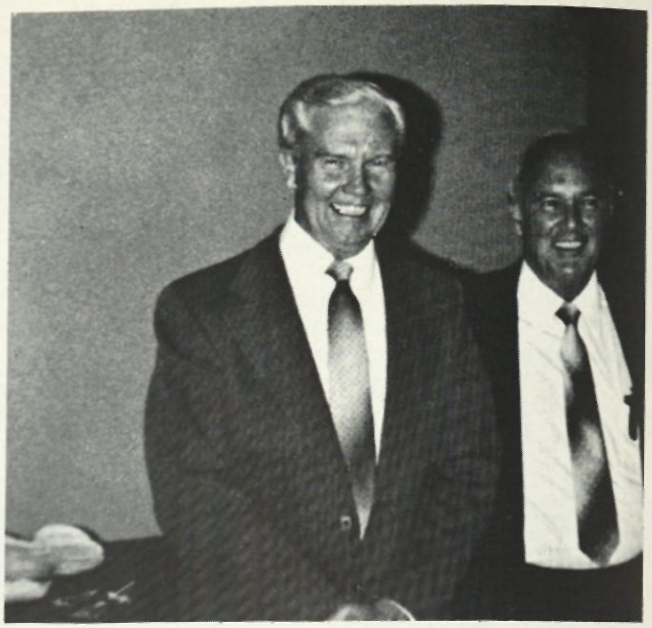
Forty-four years of selling the Rio Grande and himself took Roy Taylor to one of the leading positions on the Rio Grande sales force and to retirement on December 31, 1981. Roy's expertise and natural salesmanship coupled with his knowledge of the Rio Grande earned him the respect, admiration and friendship of his co-workers and many people throughout the transportation industry. Roy was employed on June 10, 1937 as messenger in the General Telegraph Office, Denver. He worked various clerical positions in the Freight Claims and Freight Traffic Departments. From 1942 until 1946, Roy served in the U.S. Marine Corps. He completed 80 missions as pilot and was 1st Lieutenant when he was discharged February 9, 1946. He returned to Rio Grande as head divisions clerk and was appointed city freight and passenger agent, San Francisco on February 1, 1950. He transferred to traveling freight and passenger agent, San Francisco; to general freight agent, Colorado Springs; appointed general agent, Omaha in 1959 and to general freight agent-TOFC Sales, Denver in 1964. On December 10, 1969, he was appointed director of TOFC and Government Traffic, Denver. In 1972 he was appointed national accounts executive and in 1976 this title was changed to national sales manager.

His loyalty and dedication to the Rio Grande was evident in his work and in the pride he felt for his family, many of whom had also worked for Rio Grande. Their combined years of service totalled almost 300 years — that's a lot of loyalty and dedication!

Present at his retirement party were his wife Pauline and son Don, who joined the great crowd of well-wishers gathered on November 13 to honor Roy and thank him for his years of dedication and service. Roy also has a daughter, Katherin, who attends CSU and was unable to be present. All Rio Granders extended best wishes to the Taylor family for many happy retirement years.

Larry J. Poelstra, former regional manager in Kansas City, was appointed to succeed Roy. Larry's service with Rio Grande began in 1961 as chief clerk in Stockton and Sacramento, California. He served as office manager at Portland, district representative and manager in Oakland, and regional manager at St. Louis and Kansas City. His appointment as national sales manager followed Roy Taylor's announced retirement on November 1, 1981.

Larry J. Poelstra



Roy L. Taylor and J. D. Key, vice-president of Traffic Department.

Roy Taylor with wife Pauline and son Donald enjoyed greeting friends at office retirement party.

Agent Retires—Littleton Depot Closed

Lester J. Stuart had said farewell to many stations in his forty-four years with the Rio Grande, but this would be the last one as he made his farewells to depot and friends at Littleton, Colorado. Les was retiring from a career that took him through many changes, a lot of experience and sometimes a lot of excitement.

Some of this excitement occurred back in the 'fifties when Les played a starring role in a movie called "Trouble at Troublesome." The movie was a safety film that gained recognition nationwide as being one of the best in the railroad industry. The film, Rio Grande's exclusive property, was made at Troublesome, Colorado and is now used only in Rio Grande's training classes. Les is proud of having been a part of the movie, and Rio Grande is proud of Les and the fine service he gave throughout his railroad career.

From the time Les started as messenger in Pueblo yard office on July 4, 1937, his record was without blemish. No demerits, no reprimands — just quiet dedication and loyalty to a job that never failed to interest him.

On his last day in the Littleton depot, friends kept dropping in to wish him a healthy and happy retirement. Les and his wife will retire to Pueblo where home and family are. Rio Granders all over the line wish them much happiness, with just enough excitement thrown in to keep Life interesting!

From his desk in the depot, Les recalls busy and hectic days in his life with the railroad. He says he enjoyed them all.

Agent Les Stuart waves farewell at the Littleton depot which closed on December 26, 1981.

Dispatchers Retire

Two long-time Rio Grande dispatchers pulled off their headsets and shut down the board on their railroad careers on November 6 when they started their vacation and retirement careers.

Floyd R. Crider with 40 years of service and Walter A. Jones with 35 years of service shared a retirement office party with many friends who gathered to wish them a long and happy retirement. Their wives, Effie Crider and Virginia Jones, came to join in the festivities and were presented with corsages from friends who had long shared a part of their lives. Both men started as telegraphers and saw many changes and many locations on the Rio Grande system before they moved to the central train control office in the Denver headquarters. Effie and Virginia were given a vote of thanks by those present for the major part they had played in the exciting but often frustrating careers of the two dispatchers. The ladies, both loyal railroaders, had no regrets and were proud of the many friends obtained through the years on the Rio Grande system. Much happiness is wished to the two couples in retirement life.

Dispatcher Walter Jones and CMO Jack Clancy reminisce over shared experiences in Rio Grande service.

Virginia Jones receives corsage as husband Walter does the pinning.

Dispatcher Floyd Crider beams a happy smile as he receives a fond farewell from friend and co-worker, Chief Mechanical Officer Jack Clancy.

Floyd Crider pins corsage on wife Effie.

"MEET THE GRANDE PEOPLE"

Connie Jean Gruenewald, clerk, Telegraph Office, Denver.

Celeste A. Brown, personnel assistant, Personnel Office, Denver.

Pat Kemble, chief clerk, North Yard, standing, and Donna Wells, secretary, North Yard.

Betty Lou Turner, joint secretary, Transportation Dept., Denver, left, and Carol Suchan, secretary, Chief Mechanical Office, Denver.

Meet the Grande Utah Golfers

Photos were taken at the Rio Grande Employees Third Annual Fall Tournament, Utah Division, on September 19, 1981 at Glenmoor Village. At this writing, the mountains in the background of these photos are now covered with snow, and undoubtedly these same golfers have exchanged shorts and clubs for long woolies and skis. Rio Granders work hard and play hard! Lots of luck, Action people, wherever you are!

Richard Fedel, N. C. Wiseman, Brent Michaelsen, Jake Wanlass

Kent Kennedy, Jerry Kennedy, Ed Millham, Jr., Jim Mogensen

Ray Brown, Jim Forsgren, Claude Coon, Ray Linnell, M. C. Brown

Mike Watchek, Mike Paras, Paul Kock, Steven Davidson

Chuck Nance, Scott Harvey, Chuck Packer, Kay Jensen, A. W. Kelley

Gregory Nicholson, Al Fjeldsted, Brent Eckardt, Bill Geare

Bill Fitch, Wayne Williams, Jessie Needles, Michael Jensen

Kim Beron, Theo Bassett, Curtis Boyd, Dan Shovein

Pee Wee Trimble, John T. Jenkins, Kent F. Higham, Ray L. Irvine

Bill Dyet, Bill Johnson, Guy Jones, Harold Pitt

Glen Allen, E. B. Mitchell, Bud Holt, Sonny Frantz

Elliott Larson, Cory Weaver, Steven Cutler, Bill Kranwinkle

Rail CHATTER on the Grande

High Country comments

by Maribee

Agent Ervin W. Goetsch and his wife, Jacquie, had the honor as matron and patron of the Leadville Order of the Eastern Star to go to Grand Junction recently to present at an O.E.S. meeting there a 50-year pin to Foyle O. Troxel, wife of Charles Troxel.

Foyle and Charles have retained their membership in the Leadville chapter. Since Foyle joined before Charles, he has not achieved the 50-year status yet.

Charles Troxel will be remembered as the DRGW agent at Minturn for many years. At the time of his retirement he was agent at the Denver station. Both he and his wife are in good health and enjoying their retirement home in Grand Junction.

Other fraternal news concerns Lawrence A. Blanchard, son of retired conductor Mr. and Mrs. Tom Blanchard of Salida. Tom also retains his membership in the Leadville chapter O.E.S. Chapter No. 2.

Lawrence Blanchard has been appointed Grand Commander of the Grand Commandery of Wyoming Masons. Sir Knight Blanchard was born in Leadville but received his schooling in Salida. Following his army service in 1961 Lawrence assumed the position of assistant chemist at Pathfinder Mines in Wyoming. He now holds the position of plant metallurgist.

Tom Blanchard had the honor of attiring his son in the ceremonial cord and jewel of his office.

Signal maintainer Francis Dere of Salida has three daughters about whom he talks proudly. His oldest is now a third-year student at the University of Northern Colorado in Greeley, studying to be a teacher of deaf and blind children. She also works at Zale's Jewelry.

His other two daughters are two and three-years old, making life very happy for Dere who remained a bachelor for many years. One of his main interests still is the stock market of which he has a good knowledge.

The son of your correspondent was honored recently by being called to NASA to receive a public service award for his work on the Columbia. His involvement was with the fuel cells which power the space ship. He is employed with United Technologies In Hartford, CT., a division of Pratt-Whitney.

Former Rio Grande engineman, Les Stout, who lives in Kansas visits the Leadville office about twice a year. With a daughter-in-law and son who own a balloon you can find the Les Stouts frequently following the gatherings of balloon enthusiasts.

The daughter of Agent E. W. Goetsch, Linda Kochevar and her husband, Dwight, who are residents of Buena Vista, achieved the dream of owning a horse. Linda used to "bug" her father about owning a horse, but there always seemed to be a discouraging note on his part. The dream was fulfilled but was short-lived. The Kochevars lost the horse to a heart attack soon after acquisition.

Christmas mail provides interesting news about friends. This was true in the case of retired Salida Engineer Herbert Cole and his wife Edith. This past year they traveled to Japan where they spent 21 days. A grandson was married to a lovely Korean girl at the Air Force Base near Tokyo. Herb wrote, "Edith and I have had the desire to ride a passenger train again, and we had our desires more than taken care of in Japan as that is the main mode of transportation."

This coming year Herb's brother, Elmer, who lives in San Jose, Calif., and his wife, Edna, will be celebrating 60 years of wedded bliss. He is 90, and Edna is 80.

Retired Conductor Jack Paquette of Salida is getting along satisfactorily with the insertion of a pacemaker. The only problem, according to his wife, Maxine, is that he thinks the pacemaker will allow him to be as active as a young fellow.

Mrs. Bonney Campbell, wife of Salida retired engineer, did a repeat of what Mrs. Ted McDowell did in California during visits. Broken hips were the result.

SALIDA VETS CLUB

A Christmas dinner and a summer picnic are two of the functions to which the Salida Vets Club has been dedicated.

Due to illnesses the attendance was down to 62, but the "old-timers" enjoyed catching up as well as reminiscing. Out-of-town guests were Mr. and Mrs. Zeke Knott and Mr. and Mrs. Elrod Bovee of Colorado Springs and Mr. and Mrs. Leo Locke of Buena Vista.

Bingo was enjoyed after the full-course turkey dinner. The door prize, which was $10 instead of a turkey this year, was won by Mrs. Dick Shake. Christmas candies were served during the games.

From the Store

By Dolly Fagler

Wishing everyone a Happy and Prosperous 1982!

Things are kinda quiet for the holidays.

Judy Stalnaker went to Kansas for the holidays and a reunion with her family. She also went elk hunting which she reports was quite a thrill.

Jim McDowell is back to work after recovering from a broken ankle.

Your reporter had three weeks vacation in December with no definite plans (a nice quiet way to end the year) and will be back in '82. See you then.

"Shop Notes"

By J. Paul Knight

For Carman Mike Powers and wife Les, it was a dream come true when, after two years of waiting and working, they completed their beautiful mountain home near Bailey. Aside from the long drive to work daily and the sometimes treacherous winter storms, Mike says that it is just great being a full time mountain dweller.

Laborer Fred J. Trujillo retired December 23 after 17 years of service. Fred and wife Sally plan to take an extended vacation to Las Vegas to play the slot machines, then on to El Paso and Houston, Texas. Fred wants to wish a thankful adios to all of his long-time friends at Burnham. Fred and Sally also plan to spend as much time as possible watching their fifteen grandchildren grow up. We all wish Fred and Sally a long, healthy and happy retirement.

Machinist Charles McKelvey underwent minor nose surgery and has recovered nicely. Machinist Joe Casias and wife Arabella spent the last week of November in the Hawaiian Islands. Joe said it was beautiful there. It was their second year in a row vacationing there, and Joe feels as though it might become an annual trip.

Retirees seen around the shop visiting old friends included former Machinist Helper Steve Flakus, Electrician Kappie Kappelman and Carman Art Vincent.

In closing, we at Burnham who worked for and knew retired Machinist Foreman Walter Birch would like to extend our condolences to him for the loss of his wife Fran, who died November 8 after a long illness. Our deepest heartfelt sympathies go out to Walter. A nice collection was taken up at Burnham and donated to the Muscular Dystrophy Foundation in Fran's memory.

From the Seventh

By Janet Meimar

We would all like to wish Irene Robinette great success and happiness in her new position in Revenue Accounting. We know they'll enjoy having you there, Irene.

We all wish "Mac" McMullen a speedy recovery from his recent illness, and our sincere condolences to Jeanette Boyer on the loss of her brother.

Our greetings to Vivian Vick, who just returned from a leave. She traveled to Seattle by train and visited her sister. She says she enjoyed the trip and Seattle very much. Welcome back, Viv.

We wish our 7th Floor bowlers the best of luck in the new season, and extra good luck to the Broncos. Too late for this year, but may they go all the way for '82! Happy New Year to everyone.

System Freight Agency

By Charles Cutforth

Welcome to Jerry Pacheco who comes from North Yard to the remittance clerk job here in SFA. Jerry's knowledge of the yard as well as other experience has already proved a great help to the cashier's office.

We were glad to see Paul Shelby back from Tennessee where his mother is recovering from extensive surgery. The reports are good that her recovery will be complete.

Charles and Darlene Cutforth took a quick trip to Mazatlan for a week during October. They report that the ocean water has never been warmer. Each day the hotel would post temperatures of the water and they average 83 degrees. That was warmer than the pool's. Food is higher there than ever before, but the peso was down to 25.50 to one dollar which helps the tourist.

Herman Perez spent a week's vacation pouring cement for a patio at his dad's and returned to work with sore muscles and really needing a vacation!

Gary and Linda Kavan joined with several other Rio Granders on a trip to Cancun, Mexico. While there they enjoyed seeing the ruins at Chichen Itza as well as jet skiing on the crystal Caribbean Sea. It is a real paradise for the tourist who wants to swim, snorkel or just lay around on the beautiful white sand beaches.

Congratulations are in order for Barry Seaton who becomes comptroller for the Rio Grande after the retirement of Don Clavel. We also welcome Walt Downes to the Accounting Department. He has been elected to fill the position of general auditor.

Thought: Pure gold and good character — there are no substitutes.

From the Ninth

By Linda Lile

With the passing of the holidays and the year 1981, it is good to take a moment to look back, for as we live we find that life is reflective. The last month of the year we all share moments to cherish for years to come. Therefore, it is the American way to set traditions.

The Christmas spirit revives tradition in many American families. Perhaps it is our childhood memories, the warmth and loving we wish to recapture or give which motivates us to promote tradition.

Barbara Rickard finds it hard to capture Christmas in a home full of teenagers. Rather than "Christmas carols and eggnog, they prefer Led Zepplin and the BeeGees." Yet the hassles and hard work fade into the background as the spirit of Christmas draws the family together with the opening of gifts, Christmas service and a family feast.

Like Barbara, most of us find Christmas to be a hassle, yet the gathering of family and friends and the spirit of Christmas demands celebration and tradition. We would like to share some of our traditions with you:

Leroy — "Family gathering on Christmas Eve and Oyster Stew!"

Ed — "Our family gathers Christmas morning to open gifts. This is a tradition Santa Claus left behind."

Rosemary — "My brother and I get together for Christmas. I set up a Christmas tree and decorate it with ornaments from my childhood. I also set up a Nativity scene my father collected from Germany."

Joe — "Christmas Eve our family and friends get together. We sing carols that night and Christmas morning our family open gifts."

Carol — "Christmas is something I give my children — they are my motive to keep tradition. I would say Christmas is a family tie."

In a world in which time seems so scarce, let us all sacrifice time for "tradition," that which bonds us as a people and separates us as individuals. Let the traditions of Santa Claus, Christmas Mass, Christmas Services, festivity and giving be a part of our past and a part of our future.

From the Tenth

By Dave Stubblefield

Our condolences are extended to the Holmquist family on the recent death of Kenny, former blueprint machinist operator in Engineering.

Congratulations to Steve, son of Jerry Key, Signal Department, on being part of the team which won the Columbine Soccer Team — B-League Division.

Other news in Engineering focuses on the recent "fantastic" trip taken by John and Kathy Rafferty to Egypt for fifteen days. The purpose of the trip was to visit Egyptian friends of Kathy whom she met, prior to her marriage to John, while she worked for the Egyptian Embassy in Washington, D.C. They flew from Denver to New York City to Athens, and on to Cairo — a 22-hour flight. The first five days were spent in Cairo and immediate area. Cairo is the largest city in Africa and the Middle East, composed of twelve million people. The weather while they were there was fair ranging from 65° night — 80° daytime. From Cairo, they flew 600 miles south to Abu Simbul, the site to which Ramesses II's tomb was relocated (above water) prior to the construction of the Aswan Dam. Then they traveled to Aswan where they spent four nights. At Aswan the evening temperature was 65°, and the daytime temperature was around 95°. At Aswan, they toured the antiquities including the granite quarries, high and low dams, temples and tombs. They took a motor coach to Luxor where they spent four days visiting the Valley of Kings and Queens. They visited Karnak, a 300-acre temple. John said the temples are always on the east bank of the Nile River and the tombs are on the west bank of the Nile, because the ancient Egyptians wanted the sun to shine on the tombs, following the worship of the Sun God tradition. From Luxor they traveled back to Cairo for two days and one night. John said other than the ever present security forces at airports and crossroads, he noted no feeling of unrest following Sadat's death.

Yours truly is now singing with The Colorado Chorale and all who are interested in fine music are invited to attend one or all concerts.

Denver Veterans and Ladies Auxiliary

By Marie Ford

Many members enjoyed the Annual System Convention hosted by the Salt Lake Chapter in September.

Hester Clark spent a week in North Platte, Nebraska with her niece, Lucille Beans. Rose Solem and Hester Clark were in Las Vegas four days to attend the Club 55 Brunswick Bowl Tournament at the Showboat Hotel. Jerry Clark, wife Ida and daughter Kasey were in Denver visiting Jerry's mother and Ida's parents.

Dorothy Todd, A. B. McGruder, Bob Lamb, and Joe Glasscock have all been ill. We hope they are well and strong at this writing.

The Sealys attended their grandson's wedding and remained for Thanksgiving.

Our condolences to the family of Leona Pine. Her passing left an irreplaceable vacancy in our ranks.

Many of our members enjoyed the annual November banquet at Bernard's of Arvada, and the Christmas party was held on December 10 with election of officers and board members, exchange of gifts, entertainment and refreshments.

John and Marie Dorsey drove to Carthage, Missouri to visit Tom and Mary Ford on their 40 acres.

Mae and John Barnes celebrated their 45th Wedding Anniversary on October 17 with a lovely party hosted by their two sons, Gerry and Tom and wives Darlene and Ginger. Family, grandchildren and friends from Pueblo, Canon City, Florence, Northglenn and Denver made it a memorable and happy occasion. They received calls of best wishes from relatives in Chicago, Tennessee, California and Arizona. John retired in 1972 with 47 years service with Rio Grande.

John and Vera Pounden were in San Francisco during the holidays. Alice Gehring visited her daughter, son-in-law and their children in Albany, Georgia. Hester Clark spent Thanksgiving with her son and family in California. Rose Solem enjoyed Christmas in Kansas City with her daughter and family. Marie and Joe Ford had a holiday visit with their son Donald and family from Loveland. They also enjoyed Christmas Day with the rest of their family at Singing Hills. Dean and Luethel Decker spent the day with their family in Greeley. Bill and Kathy Sealy had 14 guests for Christmas dinner.

The Ladies Auxiliary elected the following officers for 1982: President, Ora Havens; Vice President, Evelyn Arnold; Secretary, Virginia McLaughlin; Treasurer, Hester Clark.

The Veterans officers will be installed at the January meeting and will be announced in the next issue. Don't forget the Annual Retirement Dinner at the Hotel Marriott on March 19.

May your New Year be bright.

4th Avenue Yard

By Walt Carbaugh

Leon Earring took a vacation trip in the middle of November to Jamaica for a little fun and relaxation. The following, in Leon's own words, will give you an idea of just how it might feel:

"Yeah, Jamaica! I visited Jamaica for nine days — just laid in the sun and toasted. Swimming in the sea is great, just don't step on the sea urchins, they hurt! People are the nicest people anywhere. Scenery is something to remember forever. Everything is slow — slow — stop! Their national saying is "No problem, what else?"

Jamaica — relaxing in the sun!

Pueblo

By Guida Fonda

Congratulations to Mr. and Mrs. Pete Morris on the birth of their boy on November 2, 1981. They named him Ian William. Both mother and baby are fine.

We all extended our best wishes to Karen Fonda who appeared in the Junior Miss Pageant on December 5; Karen is the daughter of Arden and Betty Fonda. Arden is a conductor on the RG local and she also has a brother Gary who is conductor at Phippsburg.

We welcome Bob Foster back to work.

Congratulations to Ken Mercer who retired as a machinist in October. At press time we are trying to get everyone ready for pictures. Hopefully we will have them for the next issue.

Congratulations to Mr. and Mrs. Sam Musso who celebrated their 50th Wedding Anniversary on November 14. They celebrated by having a Mass and buffet reception given by their children. Sam retired from the Rio Grande where he was employed in the warehouse for thirty years. Best wishes to both of you for many years to come.

Our condolences to Bill Boggs on accepting the agony of his daughter's first date!

Would like to take this time to say thank you to all who have helped me to continue this column. Without your help it would not be very interesting.

A very Happy New Year to everyone!

The Big Spenders

By Isaac Mootye

From a most spacious kitchen and elaborate picture window, Margaret and Jim Miller peer at the backyard. The rolling hills and golden meadows of their nearly 200-acre tract was the scene of a recent camping trip. The proud owners of a beautiful new home and breathtaking spread, they were gracious host and hostess at their Simla, Colorado homesite.

Mrs. Mike Rhoades, the paymaster's better half, creates "Old Homestead Originals." The intricate miniatures resemble authentic rustic scenes of the old West. Nancy's handicraft is obviously that of genius. I will always cherish the piece that I purchased.

"Well, he asked me to come but I told him that I'd be pretty busy," said Al Amen when asked why he didn't stop in at the Capitol on his trip this fall to the East Coast.

Betty and Lew Amicone spent their fall vacation with her sister and nephew who live in Hawaii. Golfing and sightseeing were the general agenda with an excursion on Pearl Harbor and island hopping aboard a twin engine prop job which proved exciting.

Speaking of excitement, Blanche Milheim spent her Thanksgiving Season in beautiful Dallas. It is my wish that we all shared happy Thanksgivings with our loved ones. Carolyn Brann visited her new grandson in Missouri.

We are sorry to hear of the recent death of Perry Skinner's aunt. Perry attended the funeral held in his hometown, Davenport.

We celebrated several Libra and Scorpio birthdays this year including Jim Bradbury, Ruby Kaylor, Blanche Milheim, Sarah Munoz, Mike Rhoades and myself.

Larry Rother and I recently were awarded certificates of completion for a course on microwave gourmet kitchen. We shared many recipes and cooking tips, and we'll share our favorite with you:

Elephant Stew

(From Emily Griffith Opportunity School Foods Class)

1 elephant (medium size)
2 rabbits (optional)

Cut elelphant into bite-size pieces. This should take two months. Add enough brown gravy to cover and cook over kerosene fire for about four weeks at 450°. This will serve 3,800 people.

If more are expected, 2 rabbits may be added, but do this only if necessary, as most people do not like hare in their stew. Yield: 3,800 servings.

Celebrate Life! Help the March of Dimes Fight Birth Defects

Grand Junction

By W. J. Kiefer

This reporter has just returned from vacation and will try to catch up on some of the news and retirement parties missed out on while vacationing. Louis Hyde, who was pictured in the recent Green Light, also was featured in the Grand Junction *Daily Sentinel* (he received more space than the President of the United States!) His story in the Sentinel recalled many memorable events of his railroad career, which he "loved every minute of. . ." Hyde had "nothing but good things to say about the company. . . The Rio Grande is much more up to date than most other railroads. They have better track and roadbed, and the equipment is usually in good shape. . ." His only minor complaint about today's railroads: "When Amtrak took over many of the operations, they took away old pass rights that used to allow you to ride on various companies' trains when you retired. Now I won't be able to ride the train to different parts of the country like I wanted to." His biggest headache during his 40-year career was "cars trying to beat a train at a crossing. . . People just don't realize how long it takes for a large train to stop. . ."

Received a note from Francis Zimmerman, wife of Kenneth who retired recently and was also pictured in the recent Green Light. She wrote: "He has always loved the out of doors . . . and exploring back roads in a 4-wheel drive . . . family always accompanied him on these trips. We never knew where we would go, but it was always fun and exciting . . . also has a strong interest in flowers and gardens . . . has a greenhouse . . . skilled with carpenter tools and has made many items for grandchildren and home. Now that he has retired after 43 years he will continue with all these activities . . . with more vigor . . . and plans to see more of children and grandchildren . . . a daughter and family in Denver, one in Grand Junction, and son and family in Amoko, Nebraska."

Also retiring on November 1 was Nick Belcastro, engineer. Have the following from him: "I have put in many wonderful years with the D&RGW RR. Have enjoyed every year of it and all the people I have worked with. I started my career with Rio Grande August 27, 1937. Worked as a laborer for three months, then transferred to engine watchman at Delta, Colorado. Hired out as fireman in October, 1941, promoted to engineer May 18, 1951, west out of Grand Junction. My hobbies are restoring older automobiles and playing my guitar with two wonderful ladies. We play two and three nights a week at the older American Center for elderly folk dances. I want you all to know that they do have a wonderful time. These elderly good folks never stop dancing for two and a half hours. It is beautiful to watch them have such a good time. Yes, my loving wife and I will do some traveling. Most of the time we will be with our six grandchildren. Love them all and all of you. Good luck to all of you."

Good luck to you, Nick, and to all of our wonderful retired people here mentioned. We will miss you all and look forward to hearing from you again.

Colorado Springs

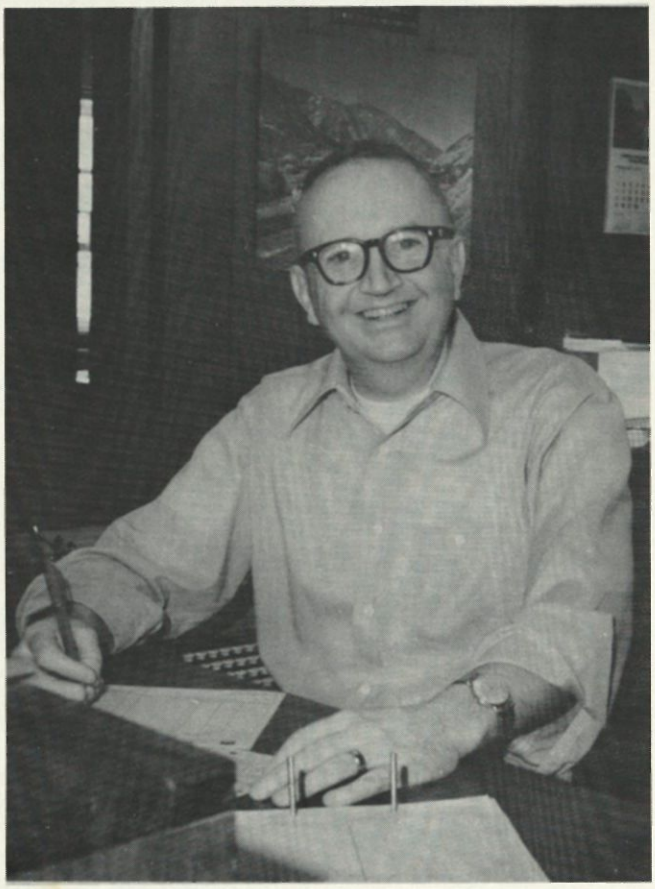
By Jim Kennedy

We extend our deepest sympathy to the Donlon family, on loss of Kathleen Donlon, wife of Andy Donlon, retired cashier, Colorado Springs. Services were held at Holy Trinity Church on November 19, 1981.

Congratulations to B. A. Thomison, red-cap janitor, who received his 30-year service award.

Bob French, chief clerk, enjoyed one week of vacation during Thanksgiving week.

R. R. Evans, retired working foreman, and Gilbert Allen, retired carman, were recent visitors to the office at Colorado Springs. Both are enjoying their retirement.



James J. Kennedy, clerk and Green Light reporter, Colorado Springs.

Photo by Bill Stanford

Help Prevent Birth Defects — The Nation's Number One Child Health Problem.

Support the

March of Dimes

BIRTH DEFECTS FOUNDATION

This space contributed by the publisher

Rio Grande Veterans Clubs Appoint Sales Representative

William E. Easley, System Veterans Club secretary-treasurer, has been appointed sales representative of sale items sponsored by the Rio Grande System Veterans Club. Items for sale include T-shirts, jackets, windbreakers, vests, knit stocking caps and scarves, all bearing the Rio Grande logo. Prices effective January 1, 1982 for such items are as follows:

Windbreakers, black only		$14.00
Jackets, black & orange		28.00
Vests, black only		19.00
T-shirts, orange only	Adult	6.00
	Child	5.50
Knit Stocking Caps or Knit Scarves sold separately		4.00
(sold as sets)		7.25

Above items may be ordered through local veterans clubs or from W. E. Easley, 788 - 24 Road, Grand Junction, CO 81501.

Baseball style hats are still sponsored by the Grand Junction club and may be obtained from local veterans clubs.

Information concerning Silverton and Montezuma jewelry and other items will be in future issues of Green Light.

Grand Junction Veterans and Ladies Auxiliary

By Norma Allen

Happy New Year to all! Another year has ended, a year of fun, work, gladness and sadness all mixed into one, but with hopes for a brighter 1982.

Congratulations to Mark and Ethel Graham on the celebration of their 60th wedding anniversary. Their children and grandchildren held a reception for them on Sunday, October 18th, at the Elks Lodge, with a great time enjoying friends and relatives.

Belated sympathy to Audrey Shaw in the loss of her husband, Charles, on September 28.

Frank Welch, retired engineer, is now residing at the LaVilla Grande Care Center. He would enjoy visitors. Also one of our longtime members, Minnie Cary, has had surgery and is doing well. For those we've missed, do hope you all feel better soon.

The Veterans Club annual Thanksgiving Dinner was held at the Elks Lodge on November 24. Officers for both clubs were elected.

The Veterans Auxiliary Christmas Party was held December 16 at the home of Ella Stapleton. Gifts were exchanged and everyone enjoyed the homemade cookies.

I'll bet you didn't know that Santa Claus could roller skate! He skated into the Rainbow Roller Rink on December 16 to entertain the Rio Grande Vets and distribute Christmas treats to all the children. Everyone had a great time.

Several of our retirees are wintering in Arizona and Texas.

"Joy is not in Things: it is in us."

CRIME PREVENTION (1979 -1981)

The FBI reports that overall crime rates are up 10% from last year — the most rapid jump in a decade. We are all too well aware of the increase in crime around us. And its effect on the quality of life in our towns

Con artists.
They'll tell you the trip is free and then take you for a ride!
Funny thing about con artists. Every year, millions of people are talked out of their life savings. There are lots of ways to be conned. I think you should learn about them—so you won't be. Write to: Crime Prevention Coalition, Box 6600, Rockville, Maryland 20850. Help put these crooks out of business, and you'll be helping to...
TAKE A BITE OUT OF CRIME
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A message from the Crime Prevention Coalition, this publication and The Ad Council
Ad Council

and cities, our suburbs and rural areas. McGruff, a hound dog in a trench coat, is the advertising "spokesperson" for this campaign designed to make our citizens aware that they have the ability to prevent or at least reduce crime. The campaign seeks to turn individuals' feelings of fear and helplessness into confidence that their actions can help prevent crime. Its theme is that everyone must accept responsibility for preventing crime — from taking simple steps such as locking doors to joining with neighbors and local law enforcement to take collective action. The National Citizens' Crime Prevention Campaign represents a national partnership and commitment to bring about change and reduce fear.

Sponsors: Crime Prevention Coalition and Office of Justice Assistance, Research and Statistics, U.S. Department of Justice.

Volunteer Coordinator: Edward W. Dooley, Vice President, Citibank, N.A.

Salt Lake City Veterans

By N. E. Boswell

The 31st Annual Rio Grande System Convention held in Salt Lake City on September 18, 1981, was a big success. For the three hundred plus Rio Grande veterans who attended it was a happy convention. Thanks to the members who helped host the event at the Hilton Inn and to the train crews who carried them all safely to Salt Lake and back to their homes. This was a deviation from past practices. The veterans are all true and loyal railroaders.

The 1982 Convention will be held in dear old Denver, Colorado.

Officers elected to serve the new year are as follows: President Walt Havens, Denver; Vice President—East Luis Duran, Denver; Vice President—West Webb Wood, Salt Lake City; Secretary-Treasurer W. E. Easley, Grand Junction.

Guest speaker was M. M. Kanderis from Denver. Board members of the Auxiliary took the ladies on a grand tour of the historic Temple Square and other places of historic interest in the city. Brunch for all was held from 11 A.M. to 3 P.M. at the Hilton Inn.

On Saturday morning, three busloads were taken into Provo Canyon to Robert Redford's Sun Dance Resort, where lunch was served, fried chicken with all the trimmings. From there, another sightseeing tour was made into the Heber Valley and Park City Ski resort, then back to the Hilton.

Veterans Club No. 1 held the annual Thanksgiving Party at the Senior Citizen Building on November 11 with an attendance of 106. The ladies played bingo while the men held election of officers, as follows: President N. E. Boswell; Vice President Clarence Underwood; Secretary-Treasurer Wayne Welch; Chairman of the Board J. C. Cowley.

Mr. and Mrs. Tezak took a boat trip down to Lake Powell.

Retired Superintendent and Mrs. J. A. Greener are on a touring spree. They are in England at the time of this writing. Who knows where they will be next? More fun!

> Finish each day and be done with it;
> You have done what you could. Some
> Blunders and absurdities no doubt crept
> in; forget them as soon as you can.
> Tomorrow is a new day . . . you shall begin
> it serenely and well.

Helper

By Lorene Smith

Mrs. Ray (Geneva) Black, who underwent surgery in a Salt Lake City hospital, is back home recuperating. Everyone wishes Geneva a speedy recovery.

Condolences to the family of Leah Berry. Leah will be greatly missed by all who knew her.

Condolences to the family of Elmer Parker, a retired machinist.

Elmer Hamilton, Jr. has been undergoing two surgeries and treatments. Everyone will be glad to know that he is slowly getting back on his feet and hopes to return to work soon.

John and Jean Baughman have moved to Salt Lake City. John has accepted a new position there. All their friends in Helper will greatly miss them, especially your reporter. Good luck and best wishes, John and Jean.

Condolences to Ern Gardner and his family upon the death of his brother, Silver Glen Gardner. Glen was a retired employee of the D&RGW Railroad, where he worked for 50 years. He was 84 years young.

Mr. and Mrs. Ray D. Anderton, Mr. and Mrs. Desmond Peckam, and Mr. and Mrs. Pete Clerico from the Helper Vets Club No. 2 attended the annual Veterans Convention in Salt Lake City. They report a very enjoyable time.

The Helper Vets Club held their Rio Grande Days at the Point-After Steak House on November 1. A steak dinner was enjoyed by fifty-one members and their families.

The "Kids Christmas Party" sponsored by Club No. 2 was held on December 20, with Santa present to visit with the children. The New Year's Dance sponsored by the Vets Club was held at the Helper Auditorium on December 31. Music was furnished by the N' and Easy Orchestra from Price, Utah.

Condolences to Mr. and Mrs. Richard Battison and family upon the loss of their son Russell Nielsen. Russell was killed in an automobile accident on October 31, 1981.

Dale Reid, retired switchman, has been on the sick list. Everyone wishes you a speedy recovery, Dale.

Friends of Ern Gardner will be glad to know that he has recuperated from his sick spell last summer and is back home as good as new, or almost anyway.

Custer Cast, father of Lorene Smith, is visiting with Ed and Lorene. He comes from Fort Bridger, Wyoming and is going to spend the winter months with us.

Utah Division

By Roper Jo

Tyden Jack McCann, born to Jack and Leigh Ann McCann at St. Mark's Hospital on September 15, 1981, weighed 7 lbs. 6 ozs. Jack is a carman at Roper. Congratulations are extended to this lucky pair.

Phil Averett, carman at Roper, won the big buck contest this year. He shot a nine point buck. Everyone wishes him happy eating.

Disneyland discount tickets are now available for all employees by contacting L. D. Hansen at Roper repair track. Hockey discount tickets may also be obtained from Mr. Hansen.

Val Gass headed for Hawaii to attend the 40-year Survivors Association reunion at Pearl Harbor. They met at the Waikiki Sheridan on December 5 for a celebration of their survival while on the island on Pearl Harbor Day. Val and his wife enjoyed being in Hawaii again. Val is a machinist in the Roper Mechanical Department.

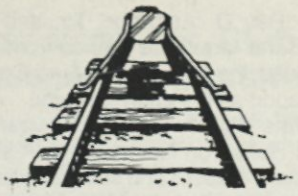
R. L. "Mots" Marelli, electrician for the Mechanical Department, just returned from Europe. He and his wife Marian and daughter Suzanne rented a car in Frankfort, Germany and traveled south on Romantic Road to Austria. They visited many castles and sampled the German hospitality. After one week in Germany and Austria, they crossed into Italy, visiting Venice, Florence, Rome and Pompeii. They visited relatives in Rome and saw the Pope. They continued south to Calalvia, a province of Southern Italy where they visited more relatives. The trip was an unforgettable three weeks.

Doug and Orlene Stoddard spent an enjoyable vacation visiting Larry, their son in Texas, and then to Richlands, Virginia to see their daughter. They returned to San Antonio, Texas to see Larry again before heading home, stopping at numerous places enroute to sightsee. They had a very good time. Doug and Orlene are clerks at Roper Yard.

Colleen Nabaum, husband Overton, and their three daughters took their vacation in Europe, where they spent four days in London, four days in Paris, touring these cities. They rented a Volkswagen in Switzerland and visited Austria and Germany where they attended the Oktoberfest. They had a delightful time and didn't have much trouble traveling by plane, but were held up one day on the return trip.

This reporter spent her vacation relaxing and doing odd cleaning jobs at home. Sounds a bit dull, but it was kinda nice!

Sympathy is extended to Earl Hills, retired engineer of Salt Lake division, for the loss of his wife Clair. Everyone at Roper wish to express their sorrow to Earl and his family.



RAIL'S END

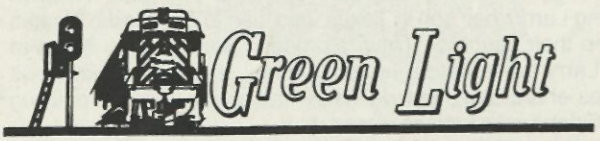
(Age and Date of Death Shown)

Adams, Charles E., Grand Junction, Conductor, 76, 9-28
Andreasen, Eugene N., Salt Lake City, Mech. Laborer, 79, 10-25
Bentrod, John W., Salt Lake City, Mech. Laborer, 88, 10-81*
Bower, Harold L., Denver, Conductor, 78, 9-7
Brownlee, James, Denver, Mech. Laborer, 93, 11-14
Burnaugh, Harold F., Denver, Asst. VP-Traffic, 83, 11-1
Carrillo, Jose D., Salt Lake City, Mech. Laborer, 86, 10-81*
Connolly, Donald W., Grand Junction, Carman, 32, 8-20
Courtney, James E., Salt Lake City, Conductor, 77, 11-12
Esquibel, V. E., Avon, Laborer, 23, 12-14
Flowers, Wilburn, M., Denver, Switchman, 55, 10-14
Fuller, Hiram C., Denver, Painter, 93, 9-81*
Gardner, Silver G., Salt Lake City, Loco. Engineer, 85, 10-19
Gooch, Homer E., Pueblo, B&B Painter, 91, 9-81*
Gutierres, Antonio L., Alamosa, Trucker, 71, 9-13
Holmquist, Kenneth O., Denver, Blueprinter, 63, 11-11
Irvine, George L., Denver, Clerk, 89, 9-81*
Kissel, Barton H., Denver, B&B Foreman, 94, 9-81*
Klodt, Theodore E., Houston, TX, Budget Analyst, 78, 10-5
Kramer, Dick F., Denver, Tower Operator, 89, 10-81*
Lehman, Duane E., Grand Junction, Clerk, 65, 10-5
Norquist, Kenneth S., Denver, Industrial Agent, 74, 12-3
Perschbacher, Leonard P., Salida, Conductor, 76, 9-81*
Robinson, Joe H., Denver, B&B Supervisor, 80, 11-26
Royse, Eston L., Colorado Springs, Track Foreman, 81, 10-81*
Schnabel, Arthur E., Pasco, WA, Clerk, 89, 9-81*
Spiers, Franklin J., Anaheim, CA, T&T Maintainer, 73, 10-29
Tipton, Ira R., Denver, Conductor, 89, 12-10
Valles, Joe L., Grand Junction, Section Laborer, 84, 9-81*
Wood, Lucille (Pat), Denver, Regional Mktg. Repr. 63, 11-22

**Reported by Railroad Retirement Board 11/29/81*

System Veterans Officers Elected

Officers elected by the Rio Grande veterans attending the 1981 Annual Convention in Salt Lake City are as follows: President Walter Havens, Denver; Vice President—East Luis Duran, Denver; Vice President—West Webb Wood, Salt Lake City; Secretary-Treasurer William E. Easley, Grand Junction.



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Address Correction Requested

The Grande People

RETIREMENTS

(Years of Service and Date Shown)

Archuleta, Jose O., Hayden, CO, Section Laborer, 25, 10-1
Belcastro, Nicola, Grand Junction, Loco. Engineer, 44, 11-1
Clavel, Donald L., Denver, Comptroller, 40, 10-31
Crider, Floyd R., Salida, Dispatcher, 40, 11-6
Elder, Harry A., Grand Junction, Core Drill Operator, 32, 9-1
Frank, Victor H., Denver, Electrician, 41, 11-30
Hyde, Louis P., Grand Junction, Loco. Engineer, 40, 10-31
Jones, Ronald, Denver, Asst. Communications Engr., 30, 11-1
Jones, Walter A., Denver, Dispatcher, 35, 11-7
Maxwell, Howard, Denver, Waiter, 37, 10-30
Mercer, Kenneth H., Pueblo, Machinist, 25, 9-30
Ohlin, Harry R., Murray, Switchman, 39, 9-1
Parkinson, Robert G., Denver, Clerk, 35, 11-5
Sanfelice, Tony A., Carmichael, CA, Loco. Engineer, 39, 10-30
Stuart, Lester J., Littleton, CO, Agent, 44, 12-26
Taylor, LeRoy L., Denver, National Sales Manager, 37, 12-31
Taylor, Lester A., Salt Lake City, Switchman, 38, 9-30
Trinder, William P., Denver, Carman, 35, 9-5
West, J. Everett, Salt Lake City, District Claim Agent, 38, 9-1
Williams, Reginald C., Salt Lake City, Road Foreman of Equipment, 40, 9-30
Young, Grant W., Salt Lake City, Carman, 40, 8-28
Zimmerman, Kenneth A., Grand Junction, Relief Crew Dispatcher, 42, 10-31

RECENT APPOINTMENTS

C. A. Brown, Personnel Assistant ..... Denver
J. J. Donohue, Asst. Market Manager-Fuels ..... Denver
W. F. Downes, Jr., General Auditor ..... Denver
R. J. Elston, Market Manager-Oil, Shale & Petroleum Denver
L. R. Freeman, Terminal Supervisor ..... Roper
J. T. Hutton, Market Analyst-Fuel Traffic ..... Denver
J. D. Phillips, Assistant Treasurer ..... Denver
B. R. Seaton, Comptroller ..... Denver
S. W. Waite, Division Trainmaster ..... Denver